

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-24 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A cutting tool, comprising:
a sliding guide ~~configured being adapted~~ for placement on a user's forearm, ~~said~~ the sliding guide having a length;
means for ~~removeably~~ attaching ~~said the~~ sliding guide to ~~said the~~ user's forearm;
a blade support ~~affixed to the sliding guide, the blade support including having~~ means for holding a blade member, ~~said the~~ blade member having a sharp cutting edge[:]), wherein
~~said blade support affixed to said sliding guide;~~
~~said the~~ blade support and ~~said the~~ sliding guide together define a blade support opening having an entrance height, ~~said the~~ blade support opening having dimensions to prevent human extremities from entering the blade support opening access limiting means adapted to provide protection from cutting human extremities.
2. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein ~~said the~~ sharp cutting edge is "V"-shaped.
3. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 2 wherein ~~said the~~ sharp cutting edge is smooth.
4. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 2 wherein ~~said the~~ sharp cutting edge is serrated.
5. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein ~~said the~~ sharp cutting edge is "U"-shaped.
6. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 5 wherein ~~said the~~ sharp cutting edge is smooth.

7. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 5 wherein ~~said~~ the sharp cutting edge is serrated.
8. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the sharp cutting edge is linear.
9. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 9 wherein ~~said~~ the sharp cutting edge is smooth.
10. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 9 wherein ~~said~~ the sharp cutting edge is serrated.
11. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the sliding guide and ~~said~~ the blade support constitute a single part ~~are integral and of molded plastic, metal, or any other rigid material.~~
12. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein the length of ~~said~~ the sliding guide is less than 5 centimeters.
13. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein the length of ~~said~~ the sliding guide is from 5 centimeters to less than 10 centimeters.
14. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein the length of ~~said~~ the sliding guide is from 10 centimeters to 15 centimeters.
15. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein the length of ~~said~~ the sliding guide is greater than 15 centimeters.
16. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the entrance height is less than 2 millimeters.

17. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein said the entrance height is from 2 millimeters to less than 4 millimeters.
18. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein said the entrance height is from 4 millimeters to less than 6 millimeters.
19. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein said the entrance height is from 6 millimeters to less than 9 millimeters.
20. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein said the entrance height is from 9 millimeters to 12 millimeters.
21. (Currently amended) A cutting tool as in claim 1 wherein said the entrance height is greater than 12 millimeters.
22. (Currently amended) A method of cutting line, the method comprising ~~the steps~~ of:

wearing a cutting tool on a user's forearm, said the cutting tool having a blade member confined within a blade support configured ~~designed~~ to prevent personal injury by interiorly locating said the blade member within a blade support opening so that a line has access to said the blade member but anything as large as a user's finger has limited ~~no~~ access to said the blade, said the blade support mounted on ~~top and front end of~~ a sliding guide having attachment means to said the forearm, said the sliding guide configured to guide said the line into said the blade member, said the blade member configured for efficient cutting in a single pass;

pivoting said the forearm across said the line so that said the sliding guide contacts ~~intercepts~~ said the line;

pulling back said the forearm including the cutting tool so that said the line slides across said the sliding guide and into the blade support opening, engaging said the blade member; and

cutting the line.

23. (Currently amended) A cutting tool, comprising:
a sliding guide configured for placement on a user's forearm, hand, or finger;
means for removeably attaching the sliding guide to the user's forearm;
a blade support affixed to the sliding guide, wherein the blade support includes a
blade support opening having dimensions to prevent human extremities from entering the
blade support opening; and
a blade member disposed in the blade support, the blade member having a sharp
cutting edge that is "V"-shaped and configured to cut a line in a single pass,
wherein the sliding guide is configured to allow the line to slide into the "V"-
shaped blade through the blade support opening.
A method of cutting line, the method comprising the steps of:
wearing a cutting tool on a user's forearm, said ~~the~~ cutting tool having a blade
member confined within a blade support configured designed to prevent personal injury
by interiorly locating said ~~the~~ blade member within a blade support opening so that a line
has access to said ~~the~~ blade member but anything as large as a user's finger has no access
to said ~~the~~ blade, said ~~the~~ blade support mounted on top and front end of a sliding guide
having attachment means to said ~~the~~ forearm, said ~~the~~ sliding guide configured to guide
said ~~the~~ line into said ~~the~~ blade member, said ~~the~~ blade member configured for efficient
cutting in a single pass;
holding a section of said ~~the~~ line with user's hand opposite hand of said ~~the~~
forearm;
pulling said ~~the~~ line into said ~~the~~ blade member; and
cutting ~~the~~ line.

24. (Currently amended) A cutting tool for hands-free cutting of line (sneeeds-to
define line as including string, rope, fishing line, etc), which can be safely worn on a
user's forearm, having an at least partially concealed blade to prevent personal injury,
said ~~the~~ partially concealed blade is configured for efficient line cutting in a single pass,
the cutting tool comprising:

a sliding guide having a length, a long axis of symmetry, a front end, a top, and a bottom, wherein said the top of said the sliding guide is convex and said the bottom of said the sliding guide is concave, said the sliding guide structured being adapted for placement on a user's forearm;

means for attaching said the sliding guide to said the user's forearm;

a blade support having an outward-extending tongue elevated by a vertical section, said the outward-extending tongue and said the vertical section being a single member together forming said the blade support approximating a sideways L-shape, said the blade support having an interior surface and a central er-plane-of-symmetry, wherein a blade member is firmly affixed along the intersection of said the interior surface and said the central er-plane-of-symmetry of said the blade support[[:]], wherein

said the blade support is mounted on said top, said front end, and centered on said long axis of symmetry of said the sliding guide, said the blade support and said the sliding guide together define a blade support opening having an entrance height[[:]],

said the blade support opening having access-limiting means adapted to provide protection from cutting human extremities[[:]], and

said the blade member being planar having a sharp cutting edge arranged and mounted interiorly within said the blade support so that said the sharp cutting edge is exposed to the exterior or the pointed outward from said blade support opening.